

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Linda B. Buck and Richard Axel
U.S. Serial No. : Not Yet Known
Filed : Herewith
For : ODORANT RECEPTORS AND USES THEREOF

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
January 26, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 25-63 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation or divisional application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-63 were pending in the subject application. By this Amendment applicants have canceled claims 25-63 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment claims 1-24 will be pending.

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Information Disclosure Statement

In accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §1.97(a)-(b)(1), applicants would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the following references which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**).

The following references are attached hereto as **Exhibits B-E**:

1. Araneda R.C., Kini A.D., and Firestein S. (2000) The molecular receptive range of an odorant receptor. Nature Neuroscience 3(12): 1248-1255 (Exhibit B);
2. Krautwurst D., Yau K.-W., and Reed R.R. (1998) Identification of ligands for olfactory receptors by functional expression of a receptor library. Cell 95: 917-926 (Exhibit C);
3. Malnic B., Hirono J., Sato T., and Buck, L.B. (1999) Combinatorial receptor codes for odors. Cell 96: 713-723 (Exhibit D); and
4. Zhao H., Ivic L., Otaki J.M., Hashimoto M., Mikoshiba K., and Firestein S. (1998) Functional expression of a mammalian odorant receptor. Science 279: 237-242 (Exhibit E).

The following references were previously submitted or cited in connection with the prosecution of U.S. Serial No. 08/129,079 from which the subject application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120. According to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of patents or publications that were previously cited by, or submitted to, the

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Patent Office in connection with such prior applications need not accompany the Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, copies of the following references are not attached to this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Anholt, R.H. (1991) Odor recognition and olfactory transduction: the new frontier. Chemical Senses 16(5):421-427.
2. Buck, L. and Axel, R. (1991) A novel multigene family may encode odorant receptors: a molecular basis for odor recognition. Cell 65: 175-187.
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4. Dhallan, R.S., Yau, K.-W., Schrader, K.A., and Reed, R.R. (1990) Primary structure and functional expression of a cyclic nucleotide-activated channel from olfactory neurons. Nature 347: 184-187.
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37. Yoshii K. et al. (1989) Inward rectifier produced by Xenopus Oocytes injected with mRNA extracted from Carp olfactory epithelium. Synapse 3: 234-238.
38. European Patent Application No. 0 335 654, published October 4, 1989.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

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